

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00668

GENEVA FOR CCD & CTB DELS

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: PARM, IO
SUBJECT: UNSSOD PREPCOM IV: DATES FOR NEXT PREPCOM AND
FOR WESTERN CONSULTATIONS ON DOCUMENTS AND PROCEDURES

REF: A. NATO 1614, B. BELGRADE 1457, C. BELGRADE 1565

1. PREPCOM BUREAU HAS DECIDED TO CONVENE FIFTH
PREPCOM SESSION ON APRIL 4 VICE APRIL 10. PURPOSE
OF MOVING UP STARTING DATE IS TO GIVE DELS ADDED
TIME TO TRY TO NEGOTIATE LANGUAGE ON FINAL DOCUMENTS.

2. BARTON GROUP AT ITS LAST MEETING, FEB 24 AGREED,
WITH US RESERVING, TO RECONVENE MARCH 30, TO CONSIDER
GOVERNMENT POSITIONS AND TO PLAN STRATEGY FOR
MAKING PROGRESS DURING PREPCOM V. USDEL WOULD PREFER
APRIL 3 BARTON GROUP MEETING, AND PLANS TO
URGE RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO MEET MARCH 30.
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3. BECAUSE OF EARLIER DATES OF CONVENING PREPCOM V,
USDEL BELIEVES NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING,
CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 5-6 (REF A) SHOULD BE
RESCHEDULED, AND SEES CONSIDERABLE ADVANTAGE IN DE-
FERRING MEETING UNTIL AFTER PREPCOM V. WE EXPECT
THAT SOME OTHER NATO MEMBERS OF BARTON GROUP WILL

PREFER NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING PRIOR TO PREPCOM V, IN ORDER TO CONSIDER GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS BEFORE GOING INTO LAST PREPCOM. USDEL BELIEVES HOWEVER THAT SINCE BARTON GROUP WILL MEET BEFORE PREPCOM V IN NEW YORK, NO REAL PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY ADDITIONAL NATO MEETING BEFORE PREPCOM V. WE BELIEVE MANY AMBIGUITIES, DUPLICATIONS, ETC. IN CURRENT TEXT MAY BE IRONED OUT DURING PREPCOM V. MOST SERIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES, NOT RESOLVED IN PREPCOM V, WOULD THEN PROVIDE MORE MEANINGFUL AGENDA FOR NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS CONSIDERATION FOLLOWING PREPCOM V AND JUST BEFORE SSOD.

4. IN RESPONSE TO REFS B AND C, USDEL BELIEVES BEST TIME AND PLACE FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVS IS MARCH 28 AND/OR 29 IN WASHINGTON -- I.E., ONE WEEK PRIOR TO OPENING OF PREPCOM V. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD MAKE GOOD SENSE FROM YUGOSLAV AS WELL AS US POINT OF VIEW. LATE MARCH TIMING ALSO WOULD ALLOW YUGOSLAV DEL TO GO DIRECTLY FROM WASHINGTON TO NEW YORK FOR ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS ON EVE OF PREPCOM V. YUGOSLAV DEL COULD ALSO MEET WITH WIDER SPECTRUM OF OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON FROM DEPARTMENT AND ACDA, AN OPPORTUNITY NOT POSSIBLE IF DISCUSSIONS ARE IN BELGRADE. YOUNG

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